

**Claims**

**1. (Previously Presented)** A method of transmitting in time slots in TDMA frames user data in bursts of GSM format, each burst comprising data portions separated by a training sequence, the method comprising transmitting only data of a first user in a first data portion of a burst before the training sequence and only data of a second user in a second data portion of the burst after the training sequence.

**2. (Previously Presented)** The method of claim 1 including transmitting each data portion in a sub time-slot allocated to a different user.

**3. (Previously Presented)** The method of claim 2 comprising transmitting user data in each time slot in a burst structure, including transmitting user data in each sub time slot in a corresponding burst structure.

**4. (Previously Presented)** The method of claim 3 in which a burst structure has n bits, the method including partitioning each time slot into m sub time slots, and transmitting user data in each sub time slot in a corresponding burst structure having  $n/m$  bits.

**5. (Previously Presented)** The method of claim 3 in which the user data comprises speech.

**6. (Previously Presented)** The method of claim 1 in which the TDMA system is an EDGE packet switched network.

**7. (Previously Presented)** The method of claim 6 in which the TDMA system is a wireless system, the method including encoding, in up-link, data from p users such that each forms 1/p of an RLC/MAC block, wherein the data from each user is encoded into a respective one of p sub-time-slots.

**8. (Previously Presented)** The method of claim 7, including transmitting the RLC/MAC block over four TDMA frames.

**9. (Previously Presented)** The method of claim 1 including encoding the user data into an RLC/MAC block for transmission, and transmitting the RLC/MAC block in a sub-time-slot over a plurality of frames.

**10. (Previously Presented)** The method of claim 1 including encoding user data associated with at least two users into a single RLC/MAC block, and transmitting the portions of the RLC/MAC block associated with respective users in respective sub-time-slots.

**11. (Previously Presented)** The method of claim 1 including transmitting the user data in each time slot in a burst structure having n bits, partitioning each time slot into m sub time slots, and transmitting user data in each sub time slot in a corresponding burst structure having n/m bits.

**12. (Previously Presented)** The method of claim 11 in which the user data comprises speech.

**13. (Previously Presented)** The method of claim 12 in which the TDMA system is a wireless system, the method including encoding, in up-link, data from p users such that each forms 1/p of an RLC/MAC block, wherein the up-link data from each user is encoded into a respective one of p sub-time-slots.

**14. (Previously Presented)** The method of claim 1, including transmitting the RLC/MAC block is over four TDMA frames.